

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-07 RSC-01 /034 W

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P 101840Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2099

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

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DEPT FOR BURKE AND HIGH ARA/CAR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, OCLR, NA, NL

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR CLEARANCE PROCEDURE SIMPLIFICATION
FOR US NAVY SHIP VISITS IN NA

REF: CURACAO 0007, SECSTATE 004650, THE HAGUE 0076,
STATE 00482

1. THE DEPARTMENT CAN BE ASSURED THAT I WAS WELL AWARE THAT THE PREFERRED, DESIRABLE, AND TRADITIONAL OR USUAL APPROACH WOULD BE FOR THE GNA TO APPROACH THE HAGUE DIRECTLY ON ITS OWN TO OBTAIN THE AUTHORITY FOR SIMPLIFYING CLEARANCE FOR US VESSELS TO ENTER THE NA. I DID EXPRESSLY MENTION TO BOTH GOVERNOR LEITO AND COMMODORE LANDZAAT THAT THE NORMAL APPROACH SHOULD BE FROM GOVERNOR LEITO TO THE HAGUE. THEY BOTH THEN EXPRESSLY ASKED ME TO REQUEST THE USG TO APPROACH THE GON ON THE MATTER. WHILE THEY DID NOT GIVE ME THEIR REASONS, I AM SURE THAT THEY WANTED THIS USG-GON APPROACH TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE INTERPRETATION BY SOME OFFICIAL IN THE HAGUE OR POSSIBLY IN THE GNA THAT THPS WAS ANY SMALLEST STEP TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE. (AS THE DEPT IS AWARE MOST RESPONSIBLE POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL PERSONS IN THE NA AVOID LIKE THE PLAGUE ANY SUGGESTION OF INDEPENDENCE. US POLICY IS TO KEEP HOLLAND INVOLVED IN THE NA IF POSSIBLE.)

2. I ALSO SUGGESTED TO COMMODORE LANDZAAT THAT I SHOULD

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APPROACH PRIME MINISTER EVERTSZ IN THE MATTER. PM EVERTSZ

PERSONALLY HANDLES FOREIGN AFFAIRS MATTERS AS THERE IS NO FOREIGN MINISTER OR EVEN ONE IN ACTING CAPACITY SINCE THE RECENT RETIREMENT OF AMBASSADOR I.C. DE BROT (SEE BI-MONTHLY CURACAO'S A-31, DATED AUGUST 9, 1974). COMMODORE LANDZAAT CAUTIONED ME TO AVOID THIS BUT DID NOT GIVE HIS REASONS. I AM SURE THE REASONS FOR COMMODORE LANDZAAT NOT WANTING TO BRING IN PM EVERTSZ IS THAT HE IS AWARE THAT EVERTSZ IS SUPER-SENSITIVE OVER ANY MENTION OF INDEPENDENCE AND THIS MIGHT DELAY AND INVOLVE WHAT COULD BE A SIMPLE MATTER.

3. THE ABOVE WAS NOT EXPLAINED IN MY UNCLASSIFIED TELEGRAM AS I OPTED FOR THE MOST RAPID POSSIBLE WAY TO SIMPLIFY THIS PRESENT RIDICULOUS, CUMBERSOME (AND SOMETIMES UNWORKABLE) U.S. NAVY SHIP CLEARANCE PROCEDURE.

4. IF THE HAGUE IS SUCCESSFUL IN ITS APPROACH TO MFA (SEE THE HAGUE'S 0076) IT WILL BE THE EASY WAY THE MATTER CAN BE SOLVED WITHOUT INTERMINABLE WAITING AND LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS OVER A RELATIVELY SIMPLE MATTER.

5. CONGEN WILL AWAIT FURTHER REPLY FROM THE HAGUE WITH GREAT HOPE FOR SUCCESS.
LOFTON

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